- (3) A multiple employer welfare arrangement;
- (4) A-multiple employer trust located in Maryland or any other state covering Maryland residents;
- (5) A nonprofit health service plan that is licensed to operate in this State; or
- (6) Any other person or organization that provides health benefit plans subject to State insurance regulation.

## <del>[698A.</del>

This Except as provided in § 706 of this subtitle, this subtitle applies only to carriers that offer health benefit plans covering eligible employees of small employers.]

698.

- (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.
- (b) "Actuarial certification" means a written statement, in a form approved by the Commissioner, by a member of the American Academy of Actuaries or other person acceptable to the Commissioner that a carrier is in compliance with the provisions of this subtitle.
- (c) "Board" means the Board of Directors of the pool established under § 707 of this subtitle.
- (d) "Carrier" means [a person that offers health benefit plans covering eligible employees of a small employer and that is ]:
- (1) An insurer that holds a certificate of authority in the State and provides health insurance in the State;
  - (2) A health maintenance organization that is licensed to operate in the State;
  - (3) A multiple employer welfare arrangement;
- (4) A multiple employer trust located in Maryland or any other state covering Maryland residents;
  - (5) A nonprofit health service plan that is licensed to operate in the State; or
- (6) Any other person or organization that provides health benefit plans subject to State insurance regulation.
- (e) "Commission" means the Maryland Health Care Access and Cost Commission established under Title 19, Subtitle 15 of the Health General Article.
- (f) "Comprehensive Standard Health Benefit Plan" means the health benefit plan adopted by the Commission in accordance with § 700 of this subtitle and Title 19, Subtitle 15 of the Health General Article.